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CONFIDENTIAL BUCHAREST 1753

E. O. 11652 : GDS TAGS: PINT RO

SUBJ: INTERNAL SHIFTS AND REORGANIZATION OF PARTY SECRETARIAT

REF: BUCHAREST 1709

- 1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH SHIFT NOT YET FORMALLY
 ANNOUNCED, ADDITIONAL SOURCES CONFIRM PRESIDIUM MEMBER VIRGIL
 TROFIN'S TRANSFER (AND IMPLICIT FURTHER DEMOTION) TO STATE COMMITTEE
 FOR LOCAL ECONOMY AND ADMINISTRATION (REPORTED REFTEL) REPLACING
 BLAJOVICI. RELIABLE RCP SOURCES ALSO REPORT LARGE- SCALE
 REORGANIZATION OF RCP SECRETARIAT GOING ON; IN ONE VERSION
 NUMBER OF SECRETARIES ARE TO BE REDUCED FROM NINE TO FIVE AND
 CHIEF OF SECTION POSITIONS ARE TO BE ABOLISHED. WHETHER OR
 NOT SECRETARIAT WILL BE REORGANIZED PRECISELY AS REPORTED,
 IT CLEAR THAT LARGE NUMBER OF SHIFTS OF SENIOR RCP PERSONNEL
 ARE CONTINUING AND THAT AN EARLY CC PLENUM (POSSIBLY BEFORE
 CEAUSESCU LEAVES FOR ITALY MAY 21) SEEMS NECESSARY. END SUMMARY.
- 2. SINCE WE REPORTED POSSIBLE SHIFT OF VIRGIL TROFIN TO REPLACE BLAJOVICI AS HEAD OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR LOCAL ECONOMY AND ADMINISTRATION, WE HAVE SINCE HAD TROFIN'S LATEST TRANSFER RELIABLY CONFIRMED BY VARIETY OF EASTERN AND WESTERN DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, MANY CLAIMING THAT INFORMATION IS BASED ON ROMANIAN SOURCES. IN ADDITION, BRITISH HAVE HAD MORE DIRECT CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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TROFIN' S NEW JOB FROM DEP. EDITOR OF ROMANIA LIBERA.

COMMENT: GIVEN STATE COMMITTEE' S REDUCED ROLE, TROFIN' S TRANSFER
CAN HARDLY BE SEEN OTHER THAN IN TERMS OF A CLEAR DEMOTION AND
ADDITIONAL REMOVAL FROM EFFECTIVE POLITICAL AUTHORITY. THIS

WILL BE TRUE EVEN THOUGH WE EXPECT SOME FACE- SAVING ATTEMPT TO DESCRIBE TRANSFER AS "TROUBLE-SHOOTING" OR AS INCREASE IN COMMITTEE'S STATURE.

- 3. DESCRIBING AN EXTENSIVE RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AN RCP ACTIVIST, SOVIET POLITICAL COUNSELOR POZDNYAKOV TOLD BRITISH THAT A LARGE- SCALE REORGANIZATION OF RCP SECRETARIAT IS GOING ON. SOME OF THE CHANGES HE DESCRIBED HAD REPORTEDLY ALREADY BEEN MADE. WHEREAS OTHERS WERE TO BE EFFECTED IN NEAR FUTURE. PRINCIPAL CHANGE WAS REPORTEDLY DECISION TO REDUCE NUMBER OF PARTY SECRETARIES FROM NINE TO FIVE. THOSE REMAINING IN THIS VERSION ARE TO BE CEAUSESCU, PANA (PARTY ORGANIZATION), BURTICA (IDEOLOGY AND PRESS), GERE (NATIONALITIES, SATE ORGANIZATION AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH PUBLIC), AND ANDREI (INTERNATIONAL PARTY RELATIONS). DUMITRU POPESCU ("MINISTER" OF CULTURE) AND MIRON CONSTANTINESCU (ECONOMIC AFFAIRS) WOULD ALLEGEDLY ADMINISTER THEIR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITIES DIRECTLY (OUTSIDE SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE). THERE HAS NOT BEEN ECONOMIC SECTION IN CC FOR SOME TIME, AND BURTICA HAD PROGRESSIVELY TAKEN OVER CC SECTION A WHICH POPESCU HAD FORMERLY CONTROLLED. THUS. SOURCE INDICATED BOTH POPESCU AND CONSTANTINESCU WILL NO LONGER BELOG TO SECRETARIAT, ALTHOUGH "IT POSSIBLE" THAT THEY MIGHT RETAIN PARTY SECRETARY TITLES. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, DINCA (SECURITY) AND BANC (GOVERNMENT CADRES) HAVE BEEN GIVEN REGIONAL JOBS (PITESTI AND TIRGU MURES). COMAN WILL TAKE OVER DINCA'S SECRETARIAT RESPON-SIBILITIES. BUT ACCORDING TO SOURCE. NOT AS A SECRETARY. SIMILAR TO DINCA'S FORMER POSITION BEFORE HE BECAME SECRETARY. COMAN WILL REPORTEDLY BE FIRST DEPUTY SECTION CHIEF FOR MILITARY AND SECURITY AFFAIRS (IMPLICATION BEING THAT CEAUSESCU WILL SUPERVISE POLICE AREA DIRECTLY). PANA IS SAID TO HAVE TAKEN OVER BANC'S FORMER SECRETARIAT DUTIES (WHICH HE PRESUMABLY HAD BEFORE BANC'S ELECTION TO SECRETARIAT A YEAR AGO).
- 4. ACCORDING TO SAME SOURCE, ALL CHIEFS OF SECTION POSITIONS (ACCORDING TO AGERPRES LIST, THERE ARE NOW 13) ARE TO BE ABOLISHED WITH THE "FIVE" 0-456 SECRETARIES SUPERVISING THEIR AREAS DIRECTLY, ASSISTED BY DEPUTY SECTION CHIEFS. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOTED TREND IN CONFIDENTIAL

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RECENT MONTHS OF NOT REPLACING SECTION CHIEFS WHO HAVE BEEN TRANSFERED

5. CZECH POLITICAL COUNSELOR HAS ALSO TOLD US THAT SECRETARIAT IS IN PROCESS OF REORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, HE HAD HEARD THAT PANA AND ANDREI WERE THE SECRETARIES WHO WOULD BE AFFECTED IN THE CHANGE. COMMENT: BOTH VERSIONS ARE OF INTEREST IN INDICATING THE UNCERTAINTIES AND CONFUSION BEING CAUSED BY THE CHANGES AMONG THE MIDDLE- LEVEL PARTY BUREAUCRACY WHICH PROBABLY IS THE SOURCE FOR THE FOREGOING REPORTS. OT THE TWO, THE VERSION DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH THREE APPEARS THE MORE LIKELY, (SINCE IT IS CONSISTENT IN IMPORTANT RESPECTS WITH WHAT WE PREVIOUSLY KNEW-- DROPPING OF SECRETARIES DINCA AND BANC AS WELL AS CHIEF OF SECTION

DUCA, ASSIGNMENT OF COMAN TO A CC SECTION POSITION); ALTHOUGH IF PUT INTO EFFECT AS DESCRIBED, RESULT WOULD BE CREATION OF HIGHLY UNORTHODOX SECRETARIAT. WE ARE NOT CLEAR WHY ALL CHIEFS OF SECTIONS WOULD BE ABOLISHED (UNLESS SECRETARIAT REORGANIZATION IS IN PART INTENDED TO REDUCE SECRETARIAT BUREAUCRACY-- 11 OF 13 SECTION CHIEFS ARE CC MEMBERS) IN LINE WITH SIMILAR CHANGES RECENTLY EFFECTED IN GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY). IN ADDITION, " UNORTHODOX" SECRETARIAT (ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC SUPERVISION IN ECONOMIC AREA. FOR EXAMPLE) IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH DE FACTO SITUATION WHICH HAS PREVAILED FOR SOME TIME-- OF CEAUSESCU'S DIRECT SUPERVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION. OF CULTURE AND IDEOLOGY, AND OF LATE, APPARENTLY THE SECURITY ESTABLISHMENT AS WELL. MOREOVER, CREATION OF VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCILS (PANA WAS NAMED HEAD OF COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION IN TODAY'S PRESS) MIGHT OBVIATE NEED FOR SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE IN THESE AREAS.

6. ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED OR SUGGESTED MAY NOT MATERIALIZE, IT IS CLEAR THAT IMPORTANT CHANGES ARE NOW BEING HAMMERED OUT IN THE SECRETARIAT, AND THAT THE SHIFTS IN INDIVIDUAL LEADERS WILL BOTH AFFECT AND REFLECT THE STATE OF POLITICAL BALANCE. FACT THAT DIFFERENT VERSIONS ARE CIRCULATING PROBABLY IS INDICATIVE OF A LEADERSHIP TUSSLE, THE OUTCOME OF WHICH IS PROBABLY NOT FULLY DECIDED AS YET. IN VIEW OF THESE REPORTS AND PREVIOUSLY REPORTED HIGH- LEVEL SHIFTS, WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY THAT CC PLENUM WILL BE CONVENED IN NEAR FUTURE (POSSIBLY BEFORE CEAUSESCU'S DEPARTURE FOR ITALY). DELAY IN HOLDING A PLENUM TO IMPLEMENT CHANGES ALREADY MADE OR PLANNED WOULD INDICATE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTINUING INABILITY TO RECONCILE DIFFERENCES OR TO ACHIEVE MORE DECISIVE OUTCOME.

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